

## Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INT-05 AGR-10 DLOS-04 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15

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OMB-01 L-03 FMC-02 OES-05 NSF-02 DODE-00 PA-02 PRS-01

CG-00 DOTE-00 /103 W

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R 112120Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7503

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADIRD

MEMBASSY MOSCOW 367

AMCONSUL HALIFAX

AMCONSUL ST JOHNS

UNCLAS OTTAWA 3465

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, PLOS, CA, PO

SUBJECT: FISHERIES: CANADIAN-PORTUGUESE TALKS

1. OTTAWA CITIZEN OF SEPTEMBER 10 CARRIED RATHER FULL REPORT  
(ACCURACY CONFIRMED BE EXTAFF OFFICER) OF LAST WEEK'S  
NEGOTIATIONS IN OTTAWA BETWEEN CANADIAN AND PORTUGUESE FISHING  
OFFICIALS. EXTAFF SEPTEMBER 8 COMMUNIQUE ON NEGOTIATIONS WILL  
BE FORWARDED UPON RECEIPT.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORT, "CANADA APPEARS TO HAVE WON A  
MAJOR DIPLOMATIC SUCCESS IN SECURING INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE  
OF CANADIAN ECONOMIC JURISDICTION OVER COASTAL WATERS TO A  
LIMIT OF 200 MILES. PORTUGAL HAS EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZED  
CANADA'S CLAIM TO EXTENDED JURISDICTION, IN LINE WITH THE  
UNEASY CONSENSUS WHICH EMERGED FROM LAST YEAR'S LAW OF THE  
SEA CONFERENCE IN GENEVA. THE PORTUGUESE RECOGNITION  
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OF CANADA'S CLAIM WENT FURTHER THAN THE EARLIER

TENTATIVE RECOGNITION BY SPAIN AND SOVIET UNION OF 'ANTICIPATED LEGAL AND JURISDICTIONAL CHANGES' IN OFF-SHORE AREAS". IN PARTICULAR, THE CITIZEN NOTES THAT THE SIGNIFICANT SENTENCE IN THE COMMUNIQUE WAS THE FOLLOWING:

"THE PORTUGUESE DELEGATION STATED THAT, AS LONG AS THE CONSERVATION AND RATIONAL UTILIZATION OF THE LIVING RESOURCES OF THE SEA ARE ASSURED IN THE GENERAL INTERESTS OF MANKIND, PORTUGAL RECOGNIZES TO CANADA, AS A COASTAL STATE, ECONOMIC RIGHTS, IN AN AREA BEYOND AND ADJACENT TO WATERS NOW UNDER ITS FISHERIES JURISDICTION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSENSUS EMERGING FROM THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE OF THE LAW OF THE SEA".

3. THE CITIZEN ALSO REPORTS THAT LIKE SPAIN AND THE SOVIET UNION, PORTUGAL ALSO AGREED TO BILATERAL TALKS (POSSIBLY IN OCTOBER) WITH CANADA ABOUT FUTURE FISHING OFF THE ATLANTIC COAST.

4. COMMENT: GOC OFFICIALS RATHER PLEASED WITH COMMUNIQUE SINCE IT REFLECTS GRADUAL ACCEPTANCE OF CANADIAN JURISDICTION BEYOND TWELVE MILE LIMIT. AS LOS OFFICIALS EXPRESSED TO EMBOFFS, THIS WAS "CREEPING SOVEREIGNTY" WHICH STRENGTHENS GOC'S HAND IN LOS NEGOTIATIONS- AND IF THOSE FAIL, WILL FIND CANADA IN GOOD POSITION FOR EVENTUAL UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF EXTENDED JURISDICTION. OFFICIALS POINTED OUT THAT IN THREE SUCCESSIVE NEGOTIATIONS, FIRST WITH SPANISH, THEN WITH SOVIETS( WHO WERE MOST IMPORTANT PARTY TO ACCEPT SOME REFERENCE TO EXTENDED CANADIAN JURISDICTION) AND NOW WITH PORTUGUESE, CANADA'S POSITION EACH TIME HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED. IN EFFECT, CANADA OBTAINING BILATERALLY BY GRADUAL AND UNOBSTRUSIVE MEASURES THAT WHICH IT IS UNWILLING AS YET TO DECLARE UNILATERALLY.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Review Date:** 06 MAR 2003  
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**TAGS:** EFIS, PLOS, CA, PO, ICNAF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006